In the Claims:

1–27. (cancelled)

28. (new) A method for enhancing the intestinal absorption of a drug in an animal, said method comprises activating the intestinal tissue with a penetration enhancer prior to allowing a drug to interact with said intestinal tissue.

29. (new) The method of claim 28 wherein the drug is formulated with a bioadhesive.

30. (new) A method for enhancing the intestinal absorption of a drug in an animal, said method comprises administering to the animal:

(a) a first population of carrier particles comprising a drug-bioadhesive component; and

(b) a second population of carrier particles comprising a penetration enhancer, wherein upon entry in to the intestine, said penetration enhancer is released and move down said intestine while acting on a mucosal membrane of said intestine, and said drug-bioadhesive component adheres to said mucosal membrane and releases said drug directly to said mucosal membrane that is activated by said penetration enhancer, whereby intestinal absorption of said drug is enhanced.

31. (new) The method of claim 30 wherein said first population is prepared as a tablet or a multiparticulate formulation.

32. (new) The method of claim 30 wherein said second population is prepared as a tablet, multiparticulate, emulsion, microemulsion or self-emulsifying system.

33. (new) The method of claim 30, wherein said drug is selected from the group consisting of a protein, peptide, nucleic acid, oligonucleotide, peptide hormone,

antibiotic, antimicrobial agent, vasoconstrictor, cardiovascular drug, vasodilator, enzyme, bone metabolism controlling agent, steroid hormone, antihypertensive, non-steroidal antiinflammatory agent, antihistamine, antitussive, expectorant, chemotherapeutic agent, sedative, antidepressant, beta-blocker, analgesic and angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitor.

34. (new) The method of claim 30, wherein said penetration enhancer is selected from the group consisting of a fatty acid, bile acid, chelating agent and non-chelating non-surfactant.

35. (new) The method of claim 30, wherein a bioadhesive of the drug-bioadhesive component is selected from the group consisting of polyacrylic polymers, poly(acrylic acid), tragacanth, cellulose, polyethyleneoxide cellulose derivatives, karya gum, starch, gelatin pectin, latex, chitosan, sodium alginate and a receptor-binding peptide.

36. (new) The method of claim 33, wherein said oligonucleotide is an antisense oligonucleotide.

37. (new) The method of claim 33 wherein said oligonucleotide comprises SEQ ID NO: 1.

38. (new) The method of claim 35 wherein said bioadhesive comprises a polyacrylic polymer.

39. (new) The method of claims 35 wherein said bioadhesive further comprises a hydroxypropylmethylcellulose.